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REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action of November 14, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-17 and 20-25 are requested.

The Office Action

The affidavit filed September 5, 2007 under 37 CFR § 1.131 was considered ineffective to overcome Petropoulos et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 7,047,502) at this time under the assertion that the Applicant has not proven reasonable diligence from just prior to the reference date to a constructive reduction to practice.

Claims 1-6 and 10-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Petropoulos.

Claims 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petropoulos, further in view of Hunt et al. (Pat. Pub. No. US 2004/0133848).

The 37 C.F.R. § 1.13 Declaration

The Applicant respectfully traverses the Office Action's holding that the 131 Affidavit does not establish prior invention on the part of the present inventor. The tenor of the Office Action indicates that the amount of evidence of continuing diligence required by the Examiner is beyond that which is humanly possible. The applicant reserves the right to present this issue on appeal.

To preserve the record, the applicant should point out that the Examiner has misinterpreted Exhibit 5 and Exhibit 6 as being evidence of related inventions. In fact, documents 5 and 6 are the Search Report and its analysis which are based on document 3.

It must be remembered that the inventor typically does not, himself, write a patent application. Rather, a patent application is written by a patent attorney, patent agent, or patent engineer assigned or hired by the inventor's employer. Exhibits 7 and 8 relate to the employer's approvals for the patent engineer to start the patent drafting process, which drafting process it will be noted was accomplished amazingly quickly.

Applicant traverses the Examiner's assertion that the Applicant has not proven reasonable diligence from just prior to the reference date to the date of a

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The Claims Distinguish Patentably
Over the References of Record

Claim 1 is patentable on the grounds that the Applicant has adequately sworn behind Petropoulos.

In the present application, the user can quickly navigate through a long series of previews and easily return to the starting point. Specifically, when the mouse is held over the link, the pointer automatically jumps to the opened preview window. If the mouse is removed from the preview window it closes. If the mouse moves over a link in the preview window, another preview window is opened and the pointer jumps to that second preview window. As long as the pointer remains in a preview window or a preview window derived from an earlier preview window, it remains open. In this manner, a single long sequence of preview windows can be maintained. The user can back up partially from a most recent preview window back up the chain erasing preview windows as the pointer moves and then starting a new branch to the chain. This is a very different operating principle from Petropoulos who is interested in previewing the list of citations generated in response to a search query.

Claim 2 has been amended to call for the pointer to be automatically moved into a preview window when it is opened. This preview window remains open as long as the pointer is in it or in a window which is opened via a link in the first preview window. Petropoulos does not automatically jump the pointer into an open preview window nor does Petropoulos automatically close a preview window when the pointer is removed from it or from one of the later generation preview windows which were opened via a link in the preview window. See also the discussion of claim 21, below.

Hunt does not cure this shortcoming of Petropoulos. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 2 and claims 3-9 and 12-17 dependent therefrom distinguish patentably and unobviously over the references of record.

Claim 10 has been amended to focus on a local network system in which links in text documents or spreadsheet documents preview related text or spreadsheet documents.

The present system is also applicable to word processing type systems in which intra or inter office documents which are related to each other or which are

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referenced within a document can be readily previewed. For example, a report which references an accounting spreadsheet may simply include a link to that spreadsheet.

Petropoulos is concerned with surfing the internet. Particularly, Petropoulos is interested in doing a search and bringing up a list of search candidates. Then as the cursor is moved along the search candidates, previews of websites related to the candidates are displayed.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 10 and claim 11 dependent therefrom is not anticipated by Petropoulos.

Claim 21 has been placed in independent form. Claim 21 calls for the pointer to be automatically repositioned in a new preview window when it is opened. Column 7, lines 1-9 of Petropoulos referenced by the Examiner calls for a window to remain open during the mouse-over. When the pointer of Petropoulos is placed in a mouse-over position over one or boxes 60, 61, 66, 64, or 65, the corresponding, but displaced window remains opened. This section of Petropoulos does not state that the pointer is automatically repositioned within the opened window. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 21 and claims 20 and 22-25 dependent therefrom are not anticipated by Petropoulos.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Petropoulos does not anticipate the subject invention as described by independent claim 21, or claims 20 and 23-25 which depend therefrom. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.
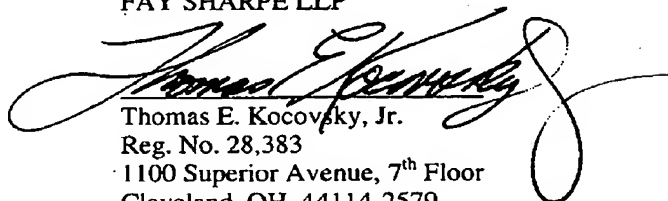
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CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that claims 2-17 and 20-25 (all claims) distinguish patentably over the references of record and meet all statutory requirements. An early allowance of all claims is requested.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is requested to telephone Thomas Kocovsky at (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY SHARPE LLP

Thomas E. Kocovsky, Jr.
Reg. No. 28,383
1100 Superior Avenue, 7th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44114-2579
(216) 861-5582

Direct All Correspondence to:
Yan Glickberg, Reg. No. 51,742
US PHILIPS CORPORATION
P.O. Box 3001
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001
(440) 483-3455 (tel)
(440) 483-2452 (fax)

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